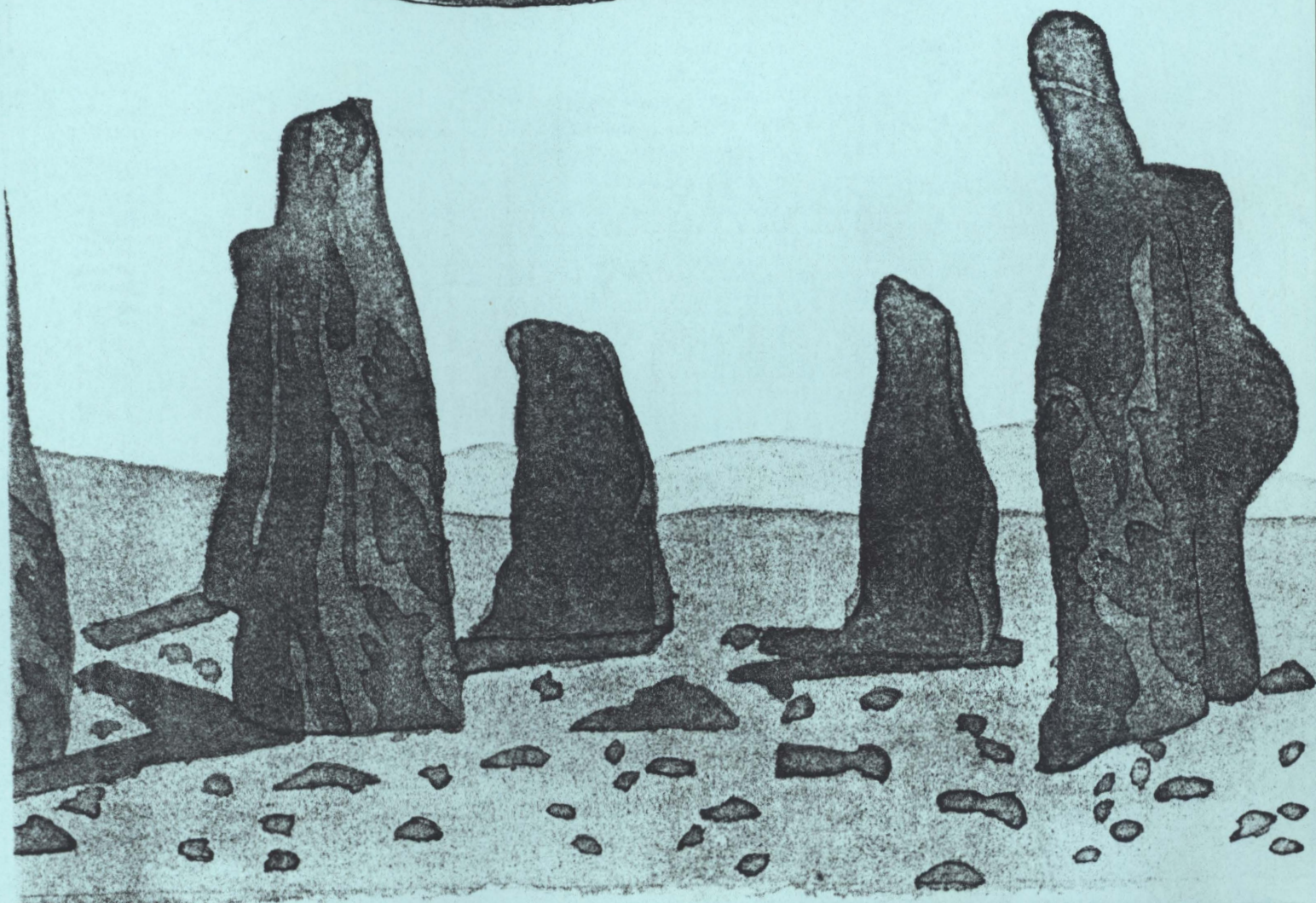
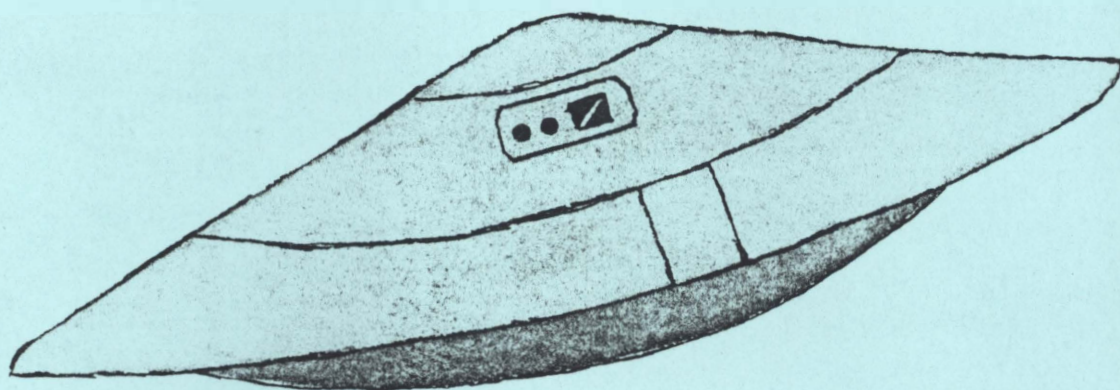


# **AWARENESS**

**JOURNAL OF CONTACT INTERNATIONAL**

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## EDITORIAL

This is the last editorial of Volume 14 and regrettably we are publishing late again. However we have the latest edition of the UFO Register included with your copy this time which has stretched the time and resources of the publishing team who are all unpaid volunteers. To this end we must express particular thanks to Frances Copeland who has typed all the preceding copies of Awareness and in edition edited the UFO Register.

We have examined the cost of printing magazines and regret we must ask for a modest increase in subscription charges from £4.95 to £6.00 per year. This is still probably the lowest rate anywhere in the UK for a regular UFO publication. Since we have held the subscription rate at £4.95, the copying rate on our photocopier has increased from 1.00p to 1.36p plus V.A.T per copy and copier paper from £2.50 to £3.00 a ream. Subscriptions are due after this edition and a form for return of same is enclosed. We welcome additional donations if you are in a position to help. Several people have made very generous donations in the past year and we greatly appreciate these.

The past year has been lacking in good UFO cases except possibly the Brazil interception reported in the last Awareness and the sighting reported by a Japanese Airliner. In the UK there have been few memorable cases and we must hope for more activity soon. The sun-spot cycle theory suggests that high UFO activity occurs at the maxima of sunspots every eleven years. The last cycle coincided with the high level of sightings in 1977-8 so we might anticipate a major increase in sightings during 1988.

The lack of fresh cases to investigate here in the UK seems to have led UFO investigation groups to concentrate on a few cases and to reopen some 'old wounds'. We have received some disturbing reports from the north of England of groups feuding over an old case and some very crude investigation techniques in a recent case which Contact were also involved in. See "Cause for Concern" on page 2. The "Cracoe" Case, Yorkshire, of 1981 has been the subject of extreme controversy over the past year or so. In fact sets of photographs of the object seen were sent to Contact headquarters shortly after the events in 1981. The level of controversy on this case has now reached such a pitch that we decided to send an investigation team from Oxford to visit the Cracoe area, although not within our normal range of travelling. The findings of this visit on March 29th 1987 are described on page 13.

A recent sighting near Oxford shows the inconsistent behaviour of the press and public to UFO cases. The original witness saw a flaming object streak across the A34 road south of Oxford and rang the Contact UFO number. Contact did a survey of the area but were uncertain of the actual position the witness had been at. Later in conversation with the Oxford Journal free newspaper reporter, another lady witness had reported seeing a similar object at about the same time from her home in West Oxford. This particular lady was given a fairly big write-up with her photograph in the Oxford Journal, and Derek Mansell acting for Contact was claimed to having solved the case in large headlines. In fact Derek, nor any other Data Research member had much idea what the object was other than the obvious meteor possibility. Derek spoke to the lady witness several times and had a look at her back garden where she claimed were some unusual bald patches on the grass which had just appeared over night a few months ago. She also received about a dozen letters from the public about the sighting and others, although Contact did not hear anymore about it in spite of getting similar coverage in the newspaper!

Please Don't Forget Your Subscription.

The Editor

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# CAUSE FOR CONCERN - OPINION

by THE EDITOR

Since our last edition, when it was mentioned in the editorial that we would be reporting further on the sighting of a brilliant illuminated object seen in Cheshire on the night of the eclipse of the moon on October 17th 1986, a number of disturbing incidents have occurred in relation to this case and another case of long standing in Yorkshire. The question is one of behaviour of different UFO investigation groups in their methods of reporting rather than the actual conclusions whether the object is a UFO or IFO. In the cases in question we have seen witnesses being accused as "hoaxers" in full gaze of the media and it would appear, in the Cheshire case, that the conclusion was reached with very little investigation technique being applied and a "we are always right" attitude.

The Thelwall, Cheshire, case is /was being investigated by Contact International (Kathleen Waldron former Investigator of the Year) and the Manchester UFO Research Association (MUFORA) represented by UFO author Jenny Randles and Peter A. Hough. The Contact procedure was, as normal, to meet the witness in person at his home, and invite him to fill in a sighting form. Our investigator established a rapport with the witness with the result that he has now joined the organisation. Contrast this with the approach of MUFORA which is best illustrated by the letter they sent to the press after their rapid and inept investigation of the Case. Editors notes have been added at the appropriate places.

The Editor  
The Warrington Messenger  
120 Bridge Street,  
Warrington,  
WA1 2RU

December 1st 1986

Dear Sir,

I am writing with reference to the photograph you published on the 'Letters' page of Friday, November 7th edition of the Messenger. It appears to show an eclipse of the moon with a diffused ellipsoid of light to the left of the picture. The caption reads; 'Can You Solve The Mystery', and in his accompanying letter, the sender claims the photograph was taken on Friday, October 17th. While waiting to photograph the moon 'a bright area of light approached from the east and stopped briefly over the house in the print. It then veered off in a south easterly direction and vanished.' Two photographs were in fact taken.

We investigate all reports of unexplained aerial phenomena, and consequently Mr. L. was contacted by telephone. Our Reports Co-ordinator, Jenny Randles spoke to him first, and reported back to me. She was not impressed by his indifferent attitude towards the anomalie. It seemed of no consequence, yet our experience shows that photographers of genuine anomalies display a modicum of excitement at least.-1.

I then spoke to Mr.L. He seemed to have a total lack of photographic knowledge. Was he using night film, such as 400ASA? Just ordinary film he presumed. 100ASA,

I tried to verify? He supposed it might be. What kind of camera was it? Just an ordinary box camera. At what exposure was it set? One second, he replied. Then you must have used a tripod stand. Oh no, I just braced myself against a nearby wall! - 2

Straight away I was suspicious, but Mr. L. agreed to send me copies of the photographs to send away for analysis. He would not release the negatives for obvious reasons. I was surprised when three days later I received two standard size prints plus two enlargements. They had not been processed at a chemist, but had obviously been privately developed. The indications were that he had done the work himself!

At a meeting of MUFORA members held at Manchester University, a cursory examination was made, and certain things were noted. It was decided that the photographs were very probably a hoax. However, we decided to send them to our photographic expert, Tony Marshall, a professional landscape and wildlife photographer. On November 25th I received Tony's report. It says in part:

'Having examined the enclosed photographs, I am 99% certain that this is a hoax. The main reason being that the moon is:-

- 1) Too clear and distinct in its outline.
- 2) Too white for film and camera of the type mentioned.

The grain would have affected the moon considerably more than it has.

As far as the so called 'object' on the left is concerned, again, there is no evidence of break-up of the image that his film and camera type would in fact, have produced.

It is therefore my opinion that the two objects were added during enlargement of the prints. Both of which would be extremely easy to achieve using very average darkroom equipment. - 3

Tony also confirmed my own view that it would have been impossible to hand hold a camera set at one second exposure and take such a clear shot of the moon. In any case, standard box cameras are pre-set at a 60th of a second, and even at this exposure it is very easy to produce blurred pictures.

Mr. L. for reasons best known to himself, has deliberately set out to hoodwink the public. More than this he has wasted our time. To his credit he never claimed the object was a UFO, but we are seriously investigating this subject, and felt bound to follow up this case. As you published the original print together with Mr. L's letter, we hope you will therefore print this reply. - 4

Yours

Peter A. Hough (Chairman)

#### Editors Notes

1. If Randles does not like your telephonic voice or behaves in a way not typical of her "model" witness, then the percipient is virtually "dead and buried" before the investigation has begun. We suggest that Contact International investigators would never make an instant decision on a witness without a face to face meeting in relaxed surroundings.
2. In order to photograph a UFO it appears you must have a masters degree in



the subject. Most historic UFO pictures have been taken on the spur of the moment - the photographers probably having no idea about the technicalities of their equipment.

3. We have shown the same pictures to three different photographic specialists working in separate faculties of Oxford University. Two are satisfied entirely with the genuineness of the object:- the third no firm opinion.

4. This final paragraph was omitted by the Warrington Messenger and rightly so. The flippant remark - "More than this he has wasted our time," just about sums up the mentality of this investigation group. They did not even meet the witness face to face; made assumption virtually from the time the telephone was lifted, and embarrassed the witness and our investigator with the release of this premature letter to the press.

Additional note from Contact International Investigator Kathleen Waldron.

"Mr. L. seems a little upset by their attitude and so am I. If this letter is printed, it will make him a laughing stock. Why? These people spoke briefly over the telephone to him. As usual their method of investigation is non-existent. They have not met him or supplied a report form to be filled in. When Jenny Randles rang him he was just going to a meeting with the locals over a sewerage problem - hence the remark 'He did not seem interested.' Why should he hoodwink the public - he is not after glory?"

The other cause for concern is over a case which dates from March 1981, known as the Cracoe Fell UFO. For those readers not familiar with this event, a brief synopsis is that a glowing object was photographed by a policeman from the village of Cracoe in Yorkshire (North of Skipton). The object appeared to be hovering beneath a steep rock-face on nearby Cracoe Fell and was photographed and witnessed between 11.15 and 12.00 noon on the day of March 16th 1981.

A set of 6 photographs were supplied to Contact International of this "phenomenon" or "UFO", by the group who have since made one of the most thorough investigations into a case ever known in Ufology - namely the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS). The basic photograph without enlargement looks like a slither of light or a reflection, but the biggest enlargement seems to indicate a saucer shaped object with prominent highlights.

There is some doubt whether this object can possibly be a UFO, but the YUFOS organisation have convinced themselves that they have photographs of an actual UFO - one of the few ever recorded over Britain. Meanwhile other UFO groups in the area have taken it upon themselves to debunk the Cracoe UFO in no uncertain terms with the vilification of witnesses and witch-hunts by the dozen. In fact tension has built up to such an extent over the case we understand that physical assaults have been attempted. Ufology in the fair county of Yorkshire looks a sick joke!

We have read reams of facts and half-facts, innuendos and no doubt downright lies on Cracoe, but after 6 years how could an investigation of a single event on a single day have taken up so much time and trouble and resulted in this pitiful mess?

Contact International has looked at both sides of the argument namely that the object seen was either a UFO or a light reflection (IFO). As we do not wish to antagonise either side any more than necessary, we are keeping our conclusions confidential. Suffice it to say here that we have "Cause for Concern".

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## A SERIES OF UNKNOWN SIGHTINGS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

By D.N. Mansell

Editor - The following sightings were reported verbally to Derek Mansell when visiting friends and colleagues in Poland and Czechoslovakia. They span a wide series of time 1943-1977. It is of course difficult to obtain information of this nature from official sources in Eastern Europe states but the information was passed on verbally. The actual witnesses were police from Gdansk and Gdynia in Poland; and an East German policeman; a Soviet Colonel; Mansell's own friends in Poland and Czechoslovakia and the English Speaking Section in Moscow.

Case 1. Happened in February or March 1943 at Kharkov USSR and it concerned the retreat of the Germans from that area. It involved many troops from different divisions, but the units that had the sighting were from the Panzer Division L.A.H From the Waffen SS, the L.A.H I believe standing for Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler.

The soldiers had just started to retreat when about mid-day the area was suddenly lit up by a brilliant glow. Everyone thought there had been a huge explosion, except there was no sound to account for this other than all the general gun-fire. Suddenly a very large metallic sphere like a huge cannon ball shot across the sky. It was about 4000ft up and moving as fast as a fighter aircraft and gradually climbing higher.

A few men cheered, thinking it was some kind of new weapon, but most were very frightened. NCO's and Officers had to regain some control.

The soldier who originated this report - was actually serving with the L.A.H Division of the Waffen SS.

Case 2. was on May 7th 1966 and happened in Gdynia, Poland.

A group of dockers were urgently unloading a Soviet freighter, at 9.35 p.m. They were stopped by a very loud screeching sound, which oscillated between soft and very loud over the next 45 minutes. After this period a very brilliant light lit up the whole area - it was all colours of the rainbow and the source was in the sky. After two minutes the light went out and did not re-appear and nor did the noise:-

People at the railway station nearby and living in nearby flats heard the noise and saw the lights. Many were checked by the Police and Military.

Case 3. was on the 10th April 1969, on a road between Gdansk and Starogard, Poland.

Thirty five persons including two militia men (Policemen) watched two very large discs, either metallic grey or silver, but underneath they were giving off a very bright blue glow. The objects were stationary for 35 minutes, then shot upwards and disappeared.

Case 4. was on 16th August 1970 and was at Brzesko, Poland.

It involved a militia man on traffic patrol with his car and a truck driver. The policeman found the truck broken down and he stopped his car behind the truck



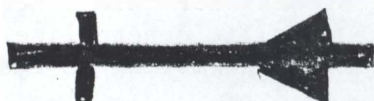
to question the driver. He was told the truck was on its way to Debzca with a load of chemicals or paint and that an object had swooped down on the truck just missing it. The craft had very powerful lights which dazzled the driver severely; also the truck engine went dead. Whilst the policeman was being told this the object returned, it stopped about 200 yards away from the police car for about 3 - 5 minutes, then turned and headed south, still keeping very low. The policeman said the craft was brown in colour, shaped like a barge underneath, about 50ft long and about 8-10ft in thickness. It had what he called as 4 very powerful headlights.

It took over an hour to restart the truck engine, but it is not known if it was diesel or petrol.

Case 5. was on 21st August 1972 and involved a military convoy running from somewhere North of Gorkij, USSR to Rostov, USSR in the South.

The source of this report was the English section in Moscow.

The convoy consisted of at least 45 heavy vehicles plus many smaller ones. At a place called Kamysir, a craft not unlike an aircraft, attacked the convoy.



The craft circled at a height of about 1000ft, then dived down over the convoy, making a whining noise. It then disappeared, but was then seen at the rear of the convoy following at same speed.

The convoy was halted and some smaller vehicles went back to investigate, the craft took off fast, reappeared and attacked two large tractor vehicles with some kind of fire, but these were put out and only slight damage was done. The next day, at a place called Kalac, the same thing happened, only this time the aircraft came in from the side and set fire to another truck, this time destroying it. The aircraft was fired at, but not hit; also the air force were called and sent in two jet fighters, but they arrived too late, the craft had gone.

Case 6. was either on the 15th or 16th of April 1974 and was at sea off Hiddensee, East Germany.

The ship involved was an East German salvage tug from Rostock. It was returning to Rostock when in the early morning some of the crew saw 4 large white lights coming slowly towards them. As the object or craft got nearer, all the crew were watching it and it came right overhead and covered the ship. It was huge and estimated at several hundred feet in diameter. Underneath the craft, along the full length was a bright violet light. Two of the crewmen were very sick afterwards but this could have been because of drink. There was no sound from the craft and it was only a few hundred feet above the ship, the object then carried on its way.

Case 7. was on the 15th June 1975 and was at Puck, Near Gydnia, Poland.

The witness had been walking near some fields when he met two men who were



dressed rather strangely. They had close fitting gear, grey in colour; the top piece around the shoulders was black and they had dark grey belts. Both were about 5ft 11 ins tall and fairish to blonde. The witness spoke to them, but they just smiled and said nothing.

They went through a gate into a field, walked to the centre and just disappeared. The witness went into the field but could find nothing. He told his wife and family and they just laughed advising him to say nothing.

Case 8. happened on the 21st May 1977 and involved an object on Soviet and Polish territory.

The object was first spotted on Soviet Radar, heading down the Baltic coast. It was picked up at Liepāza, again at Klaipēda and again by a soviet destroyer near Kurstaya Kosa.

The object was at 25000ft and producing a red vapour trail. It was, according to radar, doing 1,300 m.p.h. The destroyer launched four missiles at the object, without any hits.

Two Polish fighters were sent up from a base near Puck, Poland. They were either SU17 or SU20 jets, not carrying missiles, but as the craft had slowed down the planes were able to intercept and fire at it with cannons, although without any hits. The craft was half moon shape and about 300-400 ft in diameter, white in colour and producing a red vapour trail.

At the time of interception, the craft increased speed, changed course and headed for Sweden.



## UFOLOGICAL ILLUSIONS - Planetary Guide 1987

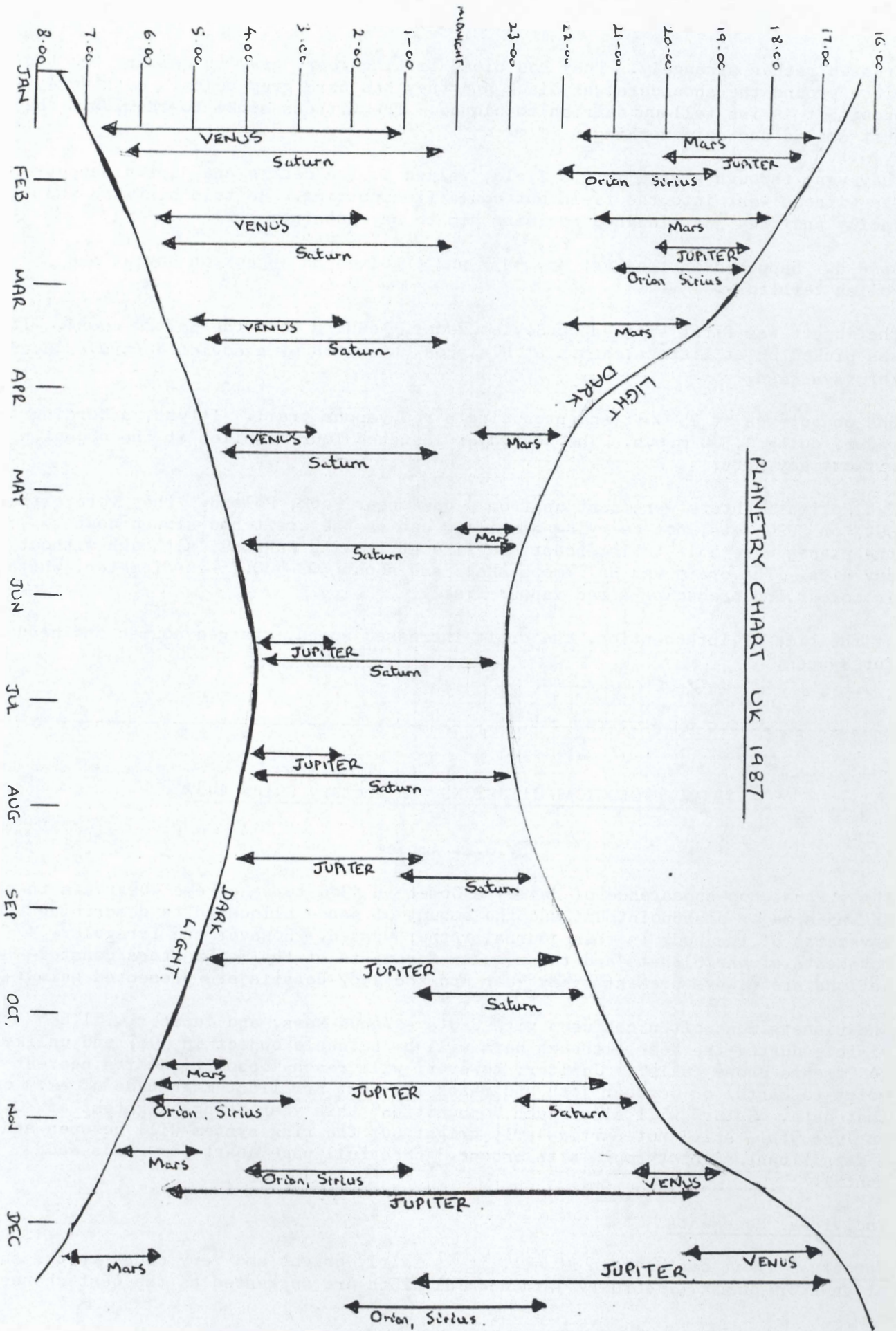
by G.E. Ambler

The virtual non-appearance of Halley's Comet in 1986 to naked eye observers in the UK was a major disappointment and the amount of space allocated to describing the movements of the body in this journal rather wasted. However the irregular movements of the planets and the regular movements of the major stars/constellations are always present every year and the 1987 details are presented below:-

The planets most often confused with UFO's - Venus Mars, and Jupiter will be visible during the year although Mars will be a feeble object in 1987 and unlikely to "create phone calls". Jupiter, however, will reach "opposition" (its nearest point to Earth) on October 18th and reach its most brilliant magnitude of -2.9 on that date. Saturn will also reach "opposition" this year being brightest at +0.0 on June 9th - still not particularly bright but the ring system will be open and a magnificent sight through a telescope. (See full page chart for guide each month).

### Individual Movements

Mercury: If it can be seen at all, it is fairly bright and very close to the sun at dawn or sunset. February 12th and July 25th are suggested as the best chances



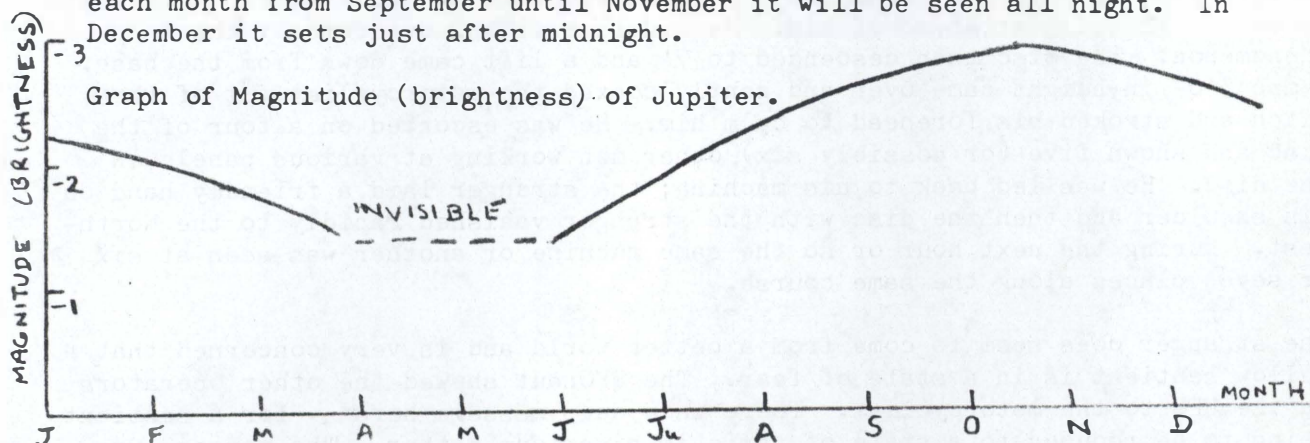


of seeing Mercury in 1987 - in February an evening object and July a morning object.

Venus: Starts the year as a brilliant morning star magnitude -4.4 in January. It remains a morning object until April but then disappears until November when it reappears for a new sequence as an evening star. It will be seen in the east as a morning star and to the west as an evening star.

Mars: Will be a weakening evening star from January to May and then fading out. It reappears briefly as a faint morning object from October to December.

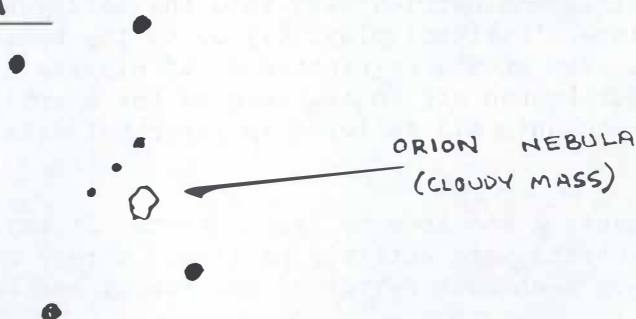
Jupiter: Will appear in the early evening until March and then not visible from April until June. It reappears as an object from June becoming brighter each month from September until November it will be seen all night. In December it sets just after midnight.



Saturn: Seen after midnight from January to April and all night from May to July. After July it appears as an evening object becoming fainter and disappears by November.

Stars: The brightest stars and constellations are best seen in winter months November to March. The objects most likely to cause confusion are Sirius, The Pleiades formation and the Orion Nebula for observers in the U.K.

### ORION



### References

Handbook of Astronomy 1987 - Patrick Moore.



### On the Mimed Behaviour of UFOs and Ufonauts

by M. Soper\*

There are those like the Lagrange Point Five society who would like to build a better world in space --- a laudable aim --- but to achieve real progress we

must also change the education of people --- we need advice about how to live and what values to choose. In the event we always feel we need some kind of message, traditionally in words. But we also know that the deepest messages are always expressed in Mime, hence the choice of title.

Not only do UFOs seem to promise a new world in the sky --- a world of freedom, like a bird, they could conceivably be passing on helpful messages by their movements and the mimed reactions of UFO-nauts to witnesses. It may seem odd to see the hope of a New Age in creatures that appear to come from space but see what you make of this account (3):

In April 1957 a motorcyclist was riding 15kms from Pajas Blancas Airport, Cordoba when his machine failed suddenly. He got off to check the bike and perceived a huge disc 80' diameter 15' thick and made of bluish-green metal 50' above the ground just ahead of him. He hid in a ditch, overcome by the phenomenon. The disc then descended to 7' and a lift came down from the base. A man 5'8" in height came over and gently coaxed the motorcyclist out of the ditch and stroked his forehead to calm him. He was escorted on a tour of the disc and shown five (or possibly six) other men working at various panels in the disc. He was led back to his machine; the stranger laid a friendly hand on his shoulder and then the disc with the stranger vanished rapidly to the North-West. During the next hour or so the same machine or another was seen at six or seven places along the same course.

The stranger does seem to come from a better world and is very concerned that a fellow sentient is in a state of fear. The UFO-naut showed the other operators in the UFO to the motorcyclist. There is a deep message here -- for a sentient being to be reduced to a state of panic is a serious matter. The message was repeated in the Kelly-Hopkinsville case which again communicates by Mime.

On August 22nd 1955 the Sutton family of Kelly near Hopkinsville had a close encounter of the third kind. Bill Taylor, a visitor, went out to the well for a drink and said on coming back that he had seen a large bright object land about a city block away. The family ignored him. Then at about 8 p.m. a four-foot tall glowing biped with pointed ears and fingers and widely separated eyes was seen walking towards the house, arms raised. When it was 20' away two men fired at it. It somersaulted and hurried away into the darkness. Over the next three hours further creatures 'stalked' playfully up to the house to be answered by volleys of gunfire. The creatures reacted as if playing a game. At 11p.m. the whole family + Taylor rushed off in two cars to the sheriff - panic stricken - subsequently their accounts all tallied in important details when interviewed separately.

This account of a meeting requires no translation. It says: HOW SILLY TO BE SO FRIGHTENED. The UFO-nauts were entirely pacific - merely mocking the Sutton's fears. It would have been much better if the family had had no weapons.

The 'monsters' may well have been projections controlled by some operator, intended to show us - and the Suttons - how silly we are. Projections by UFOs are quite common, apparently, but may not always be recognised as such; for example at Jackson's Point near Lake Simcoe, Gary Sedore saw a dark UFO parked in a field which beamed two slowly travelling beams into the sky - where the beams crossed a constellation of new craft formed - a solid image. Think of the freedom of a system which can materialise other craft wherever required. If we could do this it would usher in a new age; the whole galaxy would be open to us.

Another event which seemed to project back to us our own fears occurred on November 16th 1963 on a country road near Sandling Park, Hythe, Kent. Four



young people, one of them John Flaxton, aged 17 saw a bright star which seemed to be moving towards some woods. Suddenly it seemed to be descending towards them, it hovered and then disappeared behind some trees. Flaxton said he felt cold all over -- they ran for safety. They then saw an oval golden light floating along some 10' above a nearby field, they felt they were being watched. This object too disappeared behind trees -- they then saw a dark black headless winged figure shambling towards them - they all bolted.

There is a deep message here also, the golden light which sometimes symbolises perfection vanished before the four were shown the thing they feared most - an irrational evil creature who wished to capture them. But there is a paradox here too - the threat of hell has been used to frighten ignorant people from thinking: follow heavenly orders and don't think. But an advanced culture does not work like that - perfection of the individual comes from within - fear is replaced by cautious curiosity. The UFO people would have no respect for our fearfulness - only for our hope and detachment.

To forge our new world like the L5 society we must become an advanced society, not a primitive one. The autonomy and freedom of the individual must be increased and individually respected.

On November 18th 1957 at 3 p.m. Mrs. Cynthia Appleton living in Aston felt a sudden oppressiveness as before a thunderstorm and the image of a man appeared next to the fireplace. The man was tall and fair and claimed he and others were looking for the metal titanium in the oceans, and that he also came from a world of peace and harmony. Then followed a series of contacts one of which she was informed 'The Deity itself dwells at the heart and core of the atom' - what a helpful message this is. This encounter is more suspect than others on scientific grounds - but why should a 27 year old working class wife invent such a story? The message was partially conveyed by mime, and thus we have a link. Note that in each case there is a surprising unexpected element. Mime needs no translation - and when ufonauts are seen next to their craft this is a method they often use. But if they convey a message can we use it to construct a better world?

To find ideas for a better world from other more advanced beings from space is entirely sensible. We do not know if our culture will survive the next 100 years, but our visitors are a much more ancient race - to survive they have better ways than us and are worth learning from. As Michael Courtney showed in his article quoting from cases, they loathe cruelty, like to be vegetarian, do not believe in time, are altruistic, tend to mock whilst helping and make difficult situations into a game. They do seem to come from a better world. Can we forget our pride and learn from them.?. The ufonauts perhaps understand the connections of things better than we do. You cannot keep veal calves in stalls under poor conditions, train impressionable young men how to use weapons, kill, and behave like robots and expect the quality of your awareness of the world to remain unchanged. The people we see coming here may be merely operators of flying craft but they are well ahead of us in applied ethics.

At night on the fourth of November 1974 Mrs. Robinson of Jackson Point couldn't sleep and looked out of her window. She saw a UFO hovering over the street beaming an immensely bright light downwards, under the light were five or six small humanoids - a leader seemed to be teaching the others. This may not be a deep message for us but the message could be construed as 'Earth is a classroom for others and ourselves', or 'Were here to show you something - we make the lights as bright as we can - why don't you learn?'.

The same kind of interpretation can be placed on the Portage County Case, which did occur, although being incorporated in the film 'Close Encounters' which was mostly fiction. On April 16th 1966 Deputy Sheriff Dale F. Spaur and part-time Deputy Sheriff Wilbur Neff were on a road near Atwater Centre, Ohio when a report of a sighting came over the communicator. Joking about this the sheriffs headed west on Route 224 on other business. They stopped to investigate an abandoned car when Spaur caught sight of a bright light approaching. The humming craft stopped vertically above them. They were paralysed with shock but once they found they could move leapt into the patrol car. Their 'superior' suggested they shoot at the 50' craft! The craft then took off and in a spectacular high speed chase at up to 105 m.p.h. they pursued it over 73 miles.

The craft was like a shallow cone with the top of a thin oblate spheroid.

What is the mimed message of this? Again the very bright lights - 'can't you see were trying to tell you something' - then a fun chase in which the police acted entirely by reflex. There is a helpful message here - when you feel oppressed and frightened learn something - have fun. You can be free! Even when everything seems to hum and you are scared out of your wits by something strange, don't shrink back, enjoy yourself. The people who fly the UFOs are evidently extremely daring, as we can gauge from their behaviour, the helpful message mimed here is: 'why so scared - enjoy the situation! This scarcely needs a translation. Other sources have indicated that the Ufonauts are much more aware of what happens at 'death' than the human race - if sentient reincarnation was seen to be inevitable then one could be carefree even in the face of danger and threat to like - that too would produce a better world. Also one would not mourn so much since the 'departed' would still exist in one of the worlds and might even be contacted (not by spirits!)

To people living in space the surface of a planet would seem like the bottom of a deep sea. They would not wish to stay long on the surface. We are perfectly capable of diving to the bottoms of shallow seas and lakes but very few have ever lived there in under sea houses for any time. (The bottom of a shallow sea would be a very sensible place to survive a holocaust - if a constant supply of electrical energy can be maintained). A person living like Cousteau, the French marine explorer, is an event. This fact about space dwellers seems to explain the fleeting nature of some sightings, but may not be the true explanation.

The most remarkable message of all was the many sightings in "Support for Vallee's Hypothesis from an Unusual Quarter" Vol.12 No.4 of Awareness. Ten sightings in one town on the night of November 2nd 1957 laid out the ancient chinese system of qualities associated with trigrams and compass bearings in a remarkably deep message acted out by UFO behaviour and UFO position by an amazing (coincidence?) (design?); the trigrams can be found in The Yi King by Wan Wang (12th Century BC).

Hints for the L5 society to ponder can be found in many mimed contacts for example - it is cruel to hunt for pleasure (Cisco Grove) - Kindness to strangers (Cordoba '57) - do not eat the more intelligent animals (Aveley) - as well as the cases where missile batteries have been rendered inoperative without harm to anyone. In the Nha Trang case in South Vietnam the might of the American army was rendered powerless for minutes by a saucer, the event was witnessed by hundreds, also without permanent harm.

Thus one important lesson is freedom - from fear- from conflict - from cruelty if we can only become more conscious and less automatic. This could usher in



a New Age.

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## CRACOE REVISITED

by Data Research

Elsewhere in this journal we have described a long running argument - now approaching a feud - over the so called "Cracoe Phenomenon". Is the phenomenon a UFO or IFO? The group supporting the UFO theory have backed up their conclusions with voluminous reports running to hundreds of pages analysing the photographic evidence of March 16th 1981 and declaring the photographs to be one of the few pictures of a UFO ever taken over Great Britain. Local newspapers carried articles about this sighting over the next two or three years, which prompted other study groups in the area to take an interest in the case. The other groups have concluded that the "Cracoe Phenomenon" is merely a light reflection of the sun on an unusually reflective gritstone rock situated close the summit of Cracoe Fell.

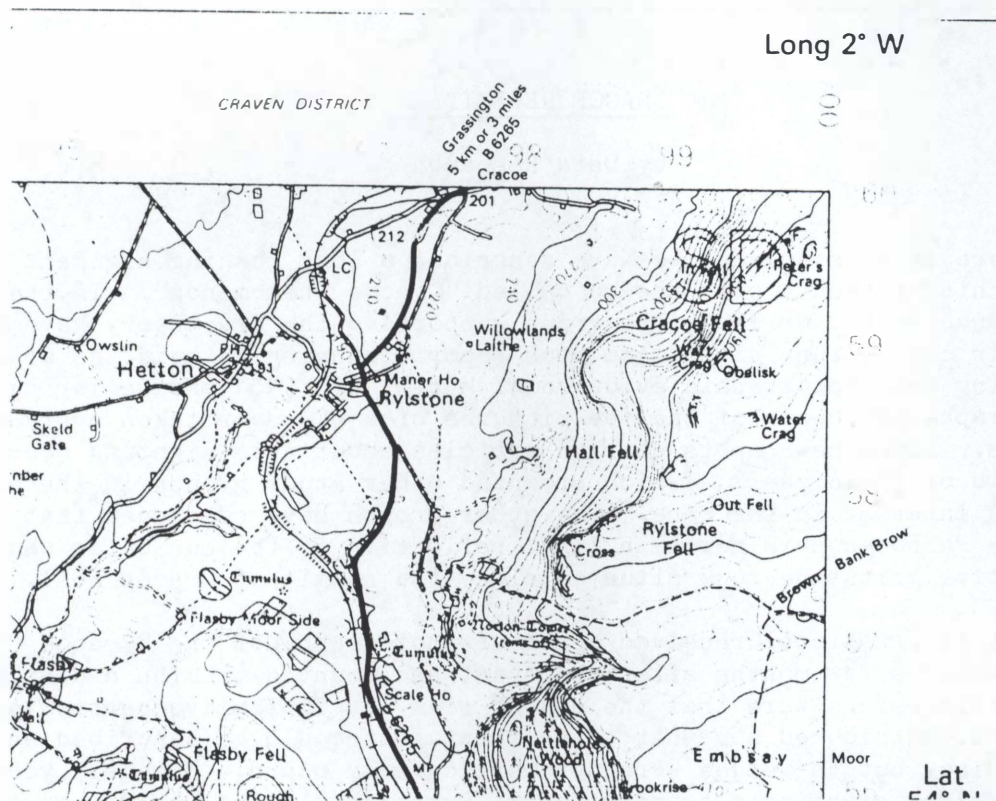
Contact International received a set of photographs of the "Cracoe Phenomenon" a few months after the event and mounted them on a display board. First impressions were that the object seen was impressive particularly when enlarged, but looked somewhat transparent. It could be described as a domed disc, but the edges were not particularly sharp. Some six years after the original sighting a team from Data Research visited the Cracoe area of Yorkshire to see for themselves. The team were Derek Mansell, Geoff Ambler and David Ridge. They arrived at Cracoe village at about 11.00 a.m on Sunday March 29th 1987. No member of the party had ever been to the area before nor had relatives or friends there.

Before entering into the findings of this visit, a brief synopsis of the area and the original report should be stated. The village of Cracoe is situated between Skipton and Grassington, Yorks on the B.6265 road. It is part of the "Yorkshire Dales" area in rugged countryside and a mecca for cyclists and ramblers. The main road runs approximately South-North from Skipton with the steep fells about one mile to the east and less harsh hills and dales to the west.

The original sighting of the "Cracoe Phenomenon" occurred on March 16th 1981 between 11.00 a.m and 12.00 noon. A policeman and his wife observed a series of five brightly lit spheres suspended round the central rocks near the top of Cracoe fell. They viewed these lights from the police house in the centre of Cracoe village. The glowing orbs were so intense that they had to shield their eyes. Another police officer came in and described the spheres like

"Looking into bright car headlights at night". A series of six 35mm colour pictures were taken by one of the police officers at 11.15 a.m. These formed the basis of the evidence thereafter. At about 11.55 a.m the lights begin to dim and fluctuate in brightness finally disappearing altogether. The officers declared they had never seen anything like this previously nor seen anything similar since. From the statements made it appears that the weather was cloudy (about 90% cover) with occasional bursts of sunlight.

What has transpired since the initial sighting in terms of investigation, would fill many volumes. The purpose of Contact Internationals visit to Cracoe was to establish a few facts from a fresh view point, rather than re-analyse the many reams of data supplied by the principal investigating groups.



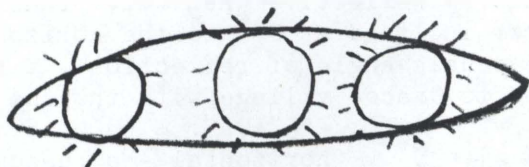
The Data Research party arrived at Cracoe at about 11.00 a.m on a very bright and sunny morning. Cloud cover was no more than 10% of "fleecy" cloud. However the temperature was extremely low around 2°C, with a bitter penetrating wind. The whole area had received abundant rainfall the previous week and there were flooded patches on the side roads. Some of the flood water was partially frozen over, indicating the cold temperature.

The team looked hard to see the distinctive profile of the top of the fell, as shown in the photographs, but could not find it in spite of showing one of the pictures to "locals". As the original photographs were taken from the police house in the village the search was centred near to this point and eventually the correct fell outline was spotted from the side road heading due east from the village. In fact, the outline was only a small sub-section of the main fells- the team being deceived by the use of telescopic camera lenses which made it appear a major feature, in the photographs.

Having spent nearly an hour in this search, the team were richly rewarded - the



"Cracoe Phenomenon" was visible, albeit a tiny blob to the naked eye, easily confused with snow patches near the tops of the fells. Looking through binoculars the shape of the object became more apparent and it was, without any doubt, the same object in the same position as shown in the original photographs and a later picture taken by a debunking group in December 1986. At 12 noon in full sunlight, the object seemed to increase in brilliance just as the sun came out from behind partial cloud cover. At this moment "triple balls" on the object became apparent and very bright through binoculars, although there was no noticeable change in brilliance to the naked eye. See illustration below:



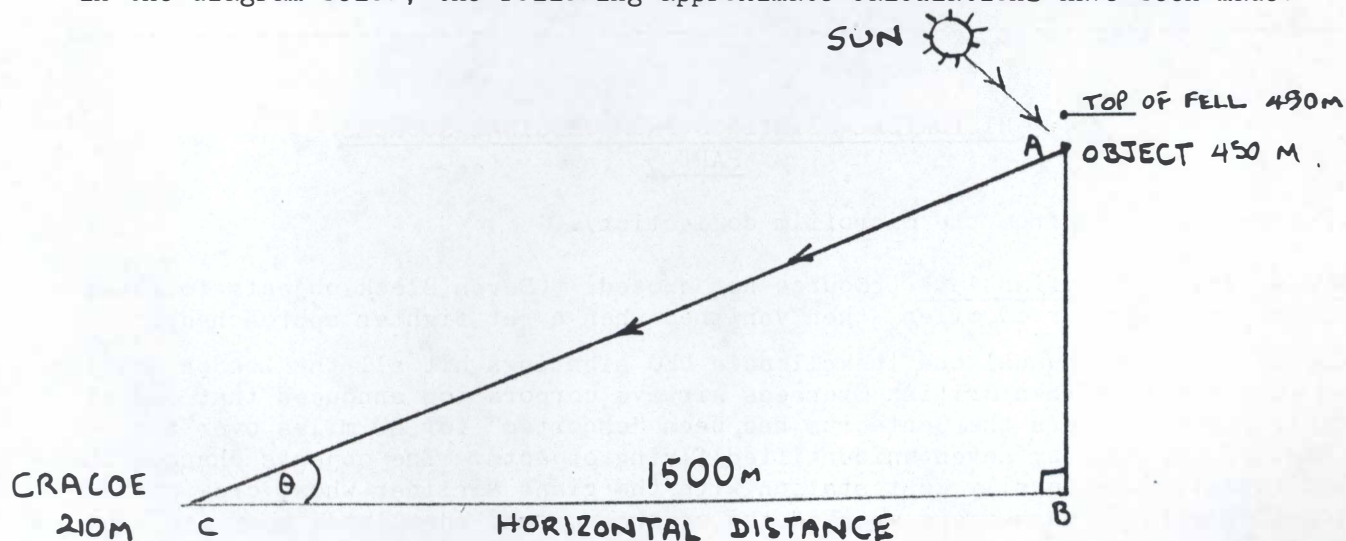
Object seen in full sunlight through binoculars, and identical to enlarged original 1981 photographs.

The overall impression was that the brightness of the object was enhanced by the increased sunlight and it certainly looked like a distinct and separate object detached from the rocks and slightly "eerie".

It would have been desirable to attempt the climb to the top of the fell, but due to the wind chill this was abandoned and the team retired to the Cracoe tea rooms and later called in for lunch at investigator Kathleen Waldron's home at Warrington.

Analysis: The first and important point established, was that the particular fell top in the photographs was only visible from a limited area - probably no more than a few hundred yards either side of the Cracoe police house. Looking in the general direction of this fell a mile or so north or south along the main road, there was no sign of the particular outline or of the "Cracoe Phenomenon".

In the original 1981 report the police witnesses described the object as dazzling, but there was no dazzle on the Contact International view of the object except when viewing through binoculars. We must surmise that in the 1981 experience the object directly reflected sunlight into the eyes of the witnesses. If we assume the object acting as a plane mirror at position A in the diagram below, the following approximate calculations have been made:-



The object A estimated at vertical height 450m (top of fell 490m)

The village Cracoe at C at elevation 210m.

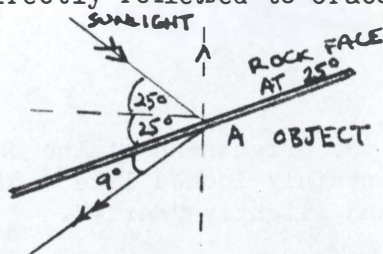
The vertical height of the object AB is thus  $450 - 210\text{m} = 240\text{m}$ .

The horizontal distance BC measured from OS map = 1500m.

Thus the angle subtended from C, D, can be calculated from the right triangle ABC.

$$\text{Tangent} = \frac{AB}{BC} = \frac{240}{1500} = 0.16 = 9^{\circ}5'$$

The debunking report claims the object is a gritstone rock covered with white lichen and inclined at  $25^{\circ}$ . It also states on the evidence of a local farmer, that this type of rock becomes particularly reflective when wet. Thus assuming the rock acts as a plane mirror inclined at  $25^{\circ}$  to the horizontal and using the property "angle of incidence equals angle of reflection", a ray of light from the sun is directly reflected to Cracoe village with the sun at  $25^{\circ} + 25^{\circ} + 9^{\circ}5' = 59^{\circ}5'$  from the horizontal - a reasonable figure for the sun around mid-day in March.



The problem with this is that it is a three dimensional situation, but the above calculation make some sort of sense. On March 29th 1987, condition at Cracoe appeared to be just about right for getting a strong reflected image as described above. The rocks must have been very wet and the sun was at an elevation of approximately  $60^{\circ}$  at mid-day. It is understood that the conditions for seeing the image deteriorate during the Summer months as the sun is high in the sky and the rocks are predominately dry. If the "Cracoe Phenomenon" is a UFO it must be a permanently based craft as Contact International and other groups have seen it six years after the original sighting. Absolute proof would be for a team at Cracoe village to observe the phenomenon while a second team were simultaneously stationed at the exact position on the fell, thus seeing a UFO or NOTHING!

Finally Contact International invites readers of Awareness to decide for themselves whether the "Cracoe Phenomenon" is a UFO or IFO and we welcome your opinions.

### HISTORICAL SIGHTINGS FROM ORIGINAL SOURCES PART 5

(Further extracts from the microfilm collection).

BOACs Flying Jellyfish 1954 (Source not quoted) (Seven Black objects followed a stratocruiser for 80 miles -then vanished when a jet fighter approached).

One of the most unusual and inexplicable UFO sightings hit all the London dailies on July 1st 1954 when British Overseas Airways corporation announced that one of their Stratocruisers the Centaurus had been "escorted" for 80 miles over the coast of Labrador by seven unidentified flying objects. The objects changed shape and formation yet easily kept station with the giant airliner whose crew of 11 together with 51 passengers watched the occurrence and speculated upon its mystery.



The Centaurus, one of BOACs fleet of sky-cruisers was on a routine flight from New York to London. It left Idlewild airport on the afternoon of June 29th for Goose Bay, Labrador, the last refueling point before the easterly ocean crossing. At approximately 8 p.m (E.S.T) just as the sun disappeared below the western horizon, the plane was flying a north-easterly course. Less than 200 miles remained before setting down at Goose Bay.

The following is an extract from the Voyage Report of Captain James Howard in command of the aircraft. Captain Howard is a former bomber squadron leader with 7500 flying hours recorded in his log. This was his 265th Atlantic crossing.

"At 0105 GMT today (June 30th) about 150 nautical miles south west of Goose Bay, height 19000 feet, flying in clear weather above a layer of low stratus cloud, I noticed on our port beam a number of dark objects at approximately the same altitude as our aircraft. I drew attention to the first officer (Lee Boyd). He said he had just noticed them also. I jokingly said that they reminded me of flick bursts. He agreed.

It then became apparent that they were moving along on a track roughly parallel to ours and keeping station with us. The First Officer then called Goose Approach to ask if there were any aircraft in the area (0107 GMT) They said No. During this time the shape of the large object changed slightly - also the positions of the smaller ones relative to the big ones. Some moved ahead, some behind. The First Officer then told Goose what we were watching and they said they could send a fighter to investigate.

The shape of the large one continually changed, but its position relative to us, did not-always about 90° to port. The distance from us appeared not less than 5 miles, possibly very much more. During this time both engineers, both navigators the radio officer, two stewards and the stewardess watched it and all of us agreed on its shape. The number of small objects accompanied it (usually six were visible) and all agreed that we had never seen anything like it before. At about 0120 the fighter reported that he was approaching us. The objects immediately began to grow indistinct until only one was visible. This grew smaller and finally disappeared (0123 GMT) still at the same bearing to us. I reported to the fighter which direction to head for and then commenced to descend to Goose, landing at 0145 GMT. As we taxied in, another fighter was sent to take over from the first.

A US Airforce intelligence officer met us and we gave him the story. I spoke to Fighter Control and he said he picked us up at 0113 GMT (when we had the subject in sight), but he had nothing on his screen other than us.

All who watched the objects are sure that the large one at any rate was no sort of winged aircraft. The small ones were just dots. They left no vapour trails. No lights were seen, just black silhouettes. The visibility at this altitude was unlimited with no cloud other than low overcast. The sun had just set. A large flock of birds might explain it if they were birds that could fly at a true airspeed of 238 knots at 38000 feet forming on a Boeing for about 80 miles."

Captain Howard added that another company's aircraft had gone the same way about 25 minutes earlier but had seen nothing.

The release of this sensational news sent London reporters skurrying for interviews with the Captain and crew. The passengers apparently had dispersed before the press arrived, so no statements were available from them.

A News Chronicle reporter who interviewed Captain Howard at his Bristol home quotes

him as saying, "The formation of objects appeared suddenly and they were obviously not aircraft as we know them. All appeared black. I'll swear they were solid. They were between five and fifty miles distant. There was a big central object which appeared to keep changing shape - sometimes it was wedge-shaped, sometimes like a dumb-bell, sometimes like a sphere with a projection. The six smaller objects dodged about either in front or behind the 'parent'. They all faded away rapidly when the Sabre jet fighter contacted us."

First Officer Lee Boyd, another former war-time squadron leader also living at Bristol was quoted by a Daily Express reporter: "It was the greatest thrill of my life. I am willing to swear that what we saw was something solid, something manoeuvrable and something that was being controlled intelligently".

The same newspaper quoted the 31year old navigator George Allen: "I am absolutely convinced that the objects we saw were a base ship of some kind with a number of satellites linked with it".

Meanwhile the Daily Sketch approached the subject from a more feminine angle and quoted the 28 year old Air hostess Daphne Webster of Hounslow, Middlesex. "It was the most exciting sight I've ever seen," she said "but a little creepy. I was making tea when I saw the objects. The big one was constantly changing its size and shape - one minute like a cigar, then an orange, then a mushroom. The smaller ones kept changing formation but not their shape. Every one of us was far too intrigued to be afraid." The Daily Mail added an additional statement of Miss Websters:- "The objects appeared to be not less than 5 miles away. It was difficult to assess their size, because there was nothing in the sky at the time to measure them against. We are quite certain that the machines were in flight and something solid."

The best news coverage of the day was reserved for the Bristol Evening Post whose reporter found the pilot, first officer and navigator more expansive when relaxed in their homes than when facing the battery of newspapermen at London airport. Under a banner heading of "FLYING OBJECTS AS BIG AS BLOCK OF FLATS" the Evening Post quotes Captain Howard, "They were definitely not ordinary aircraft or of any type- or imagination. I've never seen anything which remotely resembled them before. They were not saucers - they never looked disc shaped or flat. The size was impossible to estimate because we didn't know how far away they were. If they were 20 miles away the big object must have been the size of a block of flats; if five miles, perhaps the size of a house. By comparison, if the big one was the size of the Queen Mary the small ones were the size of tugs pulling her out of harbour. The small ones were no more than bright dots - I couldn't distinguish any shape. They flew sometimes ahead or behind the large one but never above or below." Discussing his radio call to Goose Bay and the despatch of a Sabre Jet fighter, Captain Howard continued, "The fighter was closing in within a minute or two. He signalled, "I am now 20 miles from you, What do they look like now?" And in that moment, I suddenly found I couldn't see the small ones and the larger one. was beginning to get smaller. Within two or three minutes it had diminished and finally was just a speck and then it was gone. It didn't just go forward or back, just go smaller until it disappeared". Captain Howard went on to say that it was possible that the object was flying away from him at great speed and that the changing shape may have been caused as it banked or turned, but at no time did it do anything suddenly. "I have never believed seriously in Flying Saucers" he concluded, "I am not sure that I do now. All I know is that I saw something extremely odd which was not an aeroplane."

Not made known immediately was the fact that Captain Howard and his crew were



interviewed by high-ranking RAF intelligence officers after they landed at London Airport. Quoted by the Daily Sketch the Captain said: "The RAF are obviously very interested. No one took pictures - I wish I had had my camera. But we all saw the same."

On the same day the Daily Express noted for its many discerning scientific articles published a three-column article by its Science Reporter under the banner FLYING SAUCER - NO SAYS CHAPMAN PINCHER. Mr. Pincher's theory is that the "flying saucers" seen by the crew of the Centaurus were nothing more than a reflection of the aircraft itself from a wavy layer of air. "Could a layer of air in which there was no cloud act in this way?" he writes. He thinks that it could especially as the Stratocruiser is an exceptionally shiny aircraft. -

"At various levels in the atmosphere" his article goes on, "there are regions called 'Inversions' where the air temperature changes. Boundaries between layers of warm and cold air are such good mirrors, that they cause mirages as in the desert. Because of the turbulence in the atmosphere the boundary is sometimes rippled and breaks up an image into several parts which after reflection can be seen at eye-level.

"If my theory is right, the saucers could have been seen only in the direction of the sun's rays - through the port-side windows of the aircraft which was travelling northeast while the sun was setting in the north-west."

Chapman Pincher discussed his theory with Captain Howard who knows all about inversions. The latter agreed that it was a possibility but thought "that the saucers looked too solid."

Discussing the fact that the objects followed the plane for 80 miles and then disappeared just as a fighter was coming up to investigate. Mr. Pincher states "Inversions sometimes stretch for 100s of miles, so the reflection would seem to travel with the plane. The disappearance of the saucers may have been due to the change of light - remember the sun was setting - or the 'inversion may have petered out."

Despite Chapman Pincher's discussion of his theory with Captain Howard, the pilot strongly disagreed with the former's article - so much that a letter headed I CHALLENGE PINCHER was featured on the front page of the Daily Express and signed by the pilot who started it all. The Captain's letter says: "I am the pilot concerned in the recent sighting of sky objects over Labrador, and I challenge Mr Chapman Pincher's explanation that this could have been merely the reflection of my own aircraft.

"An inversion" can act as a mirror and reflect or sometimes refract distant objects - true. But not in the way illustrated by Mr. Pincher. Had an "inversion" existed above us at the time (highly unlikely with the high temperature) we might have seen a reflection of the sunset, nothing more: certainly not six small black dots and one large variable shaped thing.

"Was it a shadow that we saw?" Possibly, but shadows are thrown away from the light source not towards it."

In the three sketches made by Captain Howard at the time of the sighting, it will be noticed that the objects appear between the plane and the setting sun but not directly opposite. The sun had actually disappeared below the horizon before the objects vanished.

Interviewed on July 3rd by BBC commentator John Ellison for the popular Saturday night radio and TV programme "In Town Tonight" Captain Howard said:- "At first my Co-Pilot Lee Boyd - a Canadian of immense experience as a pilot - and I, thought the big machine might be a delta - or swept-wing bomber, but it changed shape several times. I'm quite sure it was a three dimensional object and not a mirage, I'm still sceptical of the flying saucer theory or piloted aircraft from other planets and all the other tales. All I am willing to believe is what I saw and what my crew saw. Whether these objects were piloted craft or what they were I cannot speculate."

BOACs London Press Relations office were extremely co-operative in my investigation of this mysterious sighting. One of these officers however pointed out to me that "never at any time have we called the things 'saucers' - we prefer the word 'objects' or 'unidentified flying objects'. Everyone has been most intrigued by this phenonema, but we know nothing further about it, than what you have already been told." This statement is verified by the fact that there have been no rumours amongst the staff and personnel of No.3 line operation at London Airport the section responsible for the flight of the Centaurus.

Scientist Arthur C. Clarke author of 'The Exploration of Space' (Harper 1951) who has been investigating a number of US sightings this year flew over a parallel course only 10 hours after the objects were seen, this was purely coincidental as he was on his way from Hudson Bay to New York to photograph the eclipse of the sun.

Interviewed on his return to London on July 13th he said to me: "This is undoubtedly one of the finest sightings ever recorded from any viewpoint of the authenticity of the witnesses. However the objects were obviously not solid bodies and there are so many various types of mirage that speculation is fruitless. If the true explanation of this sighting could be established, it would probably clear up much of the "flying saucer" mystery." He went on to explain that many of the eclipse photographs he took were - "cluttered up with 'flying saucers' due to multiple light refractions in the camera lenses" - an obvious explanation of many of the so-called authenticated photographs of 'saucers'.

#### Editor

A very thorough account of all sides of this case - Unfortunately the source is not quoted but looks to be American. The possibility that the objects were mirages is vindicated by their non-appearance on radar. On the other hand the Captains vehement denials of Chapman Pinchers theory is convincing. Arthur C. Clarkes conclusion that the objects were "obviously not solid bodies" seems to have been made without much calculation. The sudden disappearance of all the objects on the approach of a fighter could prove intelligent control of the bodies or possibly the break up of the 'inversion' layer by the fighter. It was interesting to note that the word 'flying saucer' was being considered infantile at this time (1954) and the more scientific term 'unidentified flying object' taking its place. A well known case this, but the above account reveals more than just the bare facts.

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#### APRIL-MAY 1957 - LANDING OR NEAR-LANDING CASES IN FRANCE

##### Vins-sur-Caramy -April 1957

Our report in NL 8 was taken from the Nice-Matin of April 20th, as reprinted in the Courrier Interplanetaire of May 15th 1957. From the Ouranos account it is clear that the newspaper story was incorrect regarding several aspects of the affair.



The object seen landing on Route D-24 (Corresponding to a state highway in the US) was described inexactly by the paper as "a metallic construction, circular in form, 3ft high, about 6ft. in diameter, with a swelling on the upper surface; the witnesses spoke of a "giant top"; surmounted by antennas resembling radar apparatus." As the sketch shows, the object was conical, with a convex top, and rested on its point. It was about 5 ft high. From the surface of the cone there projected at right angles many little rods, apparently metallic, which were in rapid vibration.



The object itself made no sound at any time; but as it settled down on the highway, a deafening noise came from a metal road sign about 12" x 30", mounted on a post about 5 yards from the landing spot. This sign shook and vibrated violently, further terrifying the two women who were about 100 yards away - Mme. Rami, wife of the village constable, and her friend Mme. Garcin. (Contrary to the newspaper account, both of the women heard the noise.)

The racket was also heard by Jules Boglio, tending his beehives on a hill about 300 yards to the north. Thinking that two cars had collided, he ran toward the highway, and as he ran he saw the object take off. Again there was the loud metallic vibration from the sign. The "cone" swerved eastward, travelling only 15 or 20 feet where it had landed the first time. During this brief "hop" it passed above another road sign, which vibrated as noisily as the first. (Note: the Nice-Matin story indicated that the women were on the dirt road when the object appeared first. This is incorrect; they were on the highway.)

The thing then took off again "pitching from side to side," and flew toward the south-east at moderate speed. The entire affair had lasted about one minute.

Mme. Rami immediately notified her husband, and the constable went to get the police from nearby Brignoles. The two landing spots were examined; on the highway, the ground beside the road seemed to have been violently "swept", as if by a powerful blast of air. On the dirt road the traces were even more conspicuous; the earth was "scoured away" in a circular spot about four feet in diameter.

Three days later Jimmy Guieu, with M. Pierre Ayraud of Radio Monte-Carlo, visited the Brignoles police station as the first step in their investigation. They were shown official police report on the case - which made it clear that the witnesses were above all suspicion of having perpetrated a hoax. Proceeding to Vins, Guieu was at first unable to get in touch with the witnesses (by that time they were publicity -shy). Under the skeptical gaze of police, and of a brigadier who insisted that the object was a guided missile, Guieu tested the possibility that the vibration of the signs had been caused by the influence of a magnetic propulsion field. The results were striking.

Guieu first tested his compass at the steel body of his car, which deflected the needle only slightly. He then placed it on the ground exactly where the object had first landed - with no effect on the needle whatever. But as he approached the metal road sign that had vibrated so noisily, the compass showed a deflection of some 15°. The same deflection occurred at the sign above which the object had flown. But a third sign of the same kind 25 yards away from the first landing-spot, did not affect the compass. The second landing-place, in the dirt lane, was also negative; but a 16" iron irrigation culvert, a few feet from the second landing-place, likewise gave a 15° compass deflection.

Back in the village, Guieu found that once the witnesses were convinced that he was not another journalist but a serious researcher they were willing to talk to him. The tape-recorded interview was broadcast that same evening over Radio Monte-Carlo. Guieu states that the case was investigated by the Air Police (equivalent to the ATIC in the United States), but not, as asserted in the Nice paper, by the D.S.T. (equivalent to our FBI).

Palalda - April 22, 1957.

Since this case has not been described previously in the News Letter, we give below a practically complete translation of Guieu's article in Ouranos about his personal investigation.

On Monday April 22, at 1 p.m. M. and Mme. Firmin Basou, farmers of Padalda, were in their cabin beside their cherry orchard. Mme. Basou was washing the luncheon dishes when she became aware of an unusual roaring noise outside. She stepped out doors to see what caused the noise, and saw an enormous vortex of blue and red flame approaching from the north. At an altitude of only ten or fifteen yards above the ground, it was descending toward their vineyard. It had the appearance of a cone of flames, spinning very rapidly but moving forward slowly. Frightened, Mme. Basou called her husband. They watched the flying object together, as it hovered for about a minute at a point 15 feet from the western edge of the field and 15 feet above the ground. The vine shoots near it were violently agitated, and the soil was set spinning in a cloud of dust that seemed to be sucked up toward the object. Throughout, a deafening uproar was emitted. The vortex then resumed its flight southward above the field, but stopped again after travelling 400 yards and hovered 15 to 30 feet above some cherry trees in a hollow, near a bridge. The branches and foliage of these trees were violently whipped about and "bent back and forth in every direction," until it seemed that the limbs would be torn off. The cone then resumed its slow course and "climbed" a hill - keeping about 30 yards above the ground; but at the top of the hill, it rose abruptly into the sky and shot away at prodigious speed toward the southwest.

No solid "machine" was discerned by the witnesses - nothing but a conical vortex of red and blue "flame," the point downward, whose diameter at the top was about 15 feet. The size and shape could not be stated precisely, because some of the "flames" emerged in all directions from the whirl, but in general it was conical.

Where the UFO hovered in the vineyard, the ground was violently swept about and disordered. The vines were not in the least scorched although the cone had been only 15 feet above them; so probably the "flames" were not ordinary flames but some form of ionization phenomenon.

About five yards west of this stopping-point runs a metal fence in a very bad state of preservation, consisting of an irregular wire mesh strung on rusty iron uprights of T-shaped cross-section, interspersed with wooden posts. The only fencepost showing magnetism was the iron one closest to the stopping-point, which deflected a compass needle by 30°; the effect was noticeable even a foot away from the post. The other iron fenceposts the nearest of which is five yards from the magnetized post - caused no compass deviation at all. This tends to show that something unusual had affected the one first examined. Neither was there any residual magnetism detectable in the ground. These tests were made in the presence of Messes. Jacques Verpillot, Ouranos investigator from Marseille, and Paul Jaubert, retired magistrate and Ouranos correspondent for Palalda.

In company with Dr. Marcel Pages, Ouranos investigator for Pyrenees-Orientales, M. Verpillot and I visited the police station at Amelie-les-Bains and informed



them of this sighting, playing the taped interview with the witnesses for them. The gendarmes told us that the Basous enjoy an excellent reputation in the community, but expressed surprise that the incident had not been reported to them in the first place. We explained that this was because the witnesses had feared ridicule; this fear had been disarmed by the scientific character of our investigation. We assured the police that, on our request, the Basous were willing to give them a complete report, on May 11th the police went to the farm to make inquiries.

This incident presents obvious analogies to that of Vins-sur-Caramy, although at Palalda a cone of spinning flames concealed the body of the machine, and it produced a loud noise. However, "flying saucers" are often masked in a flaming aureole or a dazzling luminosity, probably an ionization phenomenon.

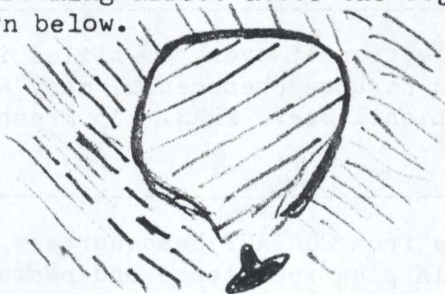
It should be mentioned that both at Vins and at Palalda the weather was fine; there is therefore no question of invoking "ball lightning," which occurs only during thunderstorms. (This fact also rules out any identification of this object as a small tornado, a phenomenon rarely seen in Europe. - CSI Editors.)

### "Invisible" UFO on Photographs

by G.E. Ambler

A photograph taken by Data Research member Michael Soper of interesting cloud formation shows an apparent disc shaped object below part of a formation. The object was not seen at all at the time of taking the picture and does not appear to be an obvious foreign body on the film, as it blends well with the cloud not showing "over contrast", as seen with obvious film defects.

The cloud formation is mostly uniform dark grey with a pinkish hue but does show a slight mushrooming affect above the object. An enhanced sketch of the photograph is shown below.



If the object was a UFO emitting hot exhaust gases this might cause the effect in the clouds as the hot gases rise and condense on cooling - similar to condensation trails or a nuclear explosion. We have discussed in many previous articles that UFOs may be invisible at most times to the human eye, but tell-tale ground markings and unusual cloud formations such as this example might enable us to get closer to detecting UFOs. The conclusion is - photograph any unusual cloud formations wherever possible. There is just a chance that something might appear on film.

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